

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

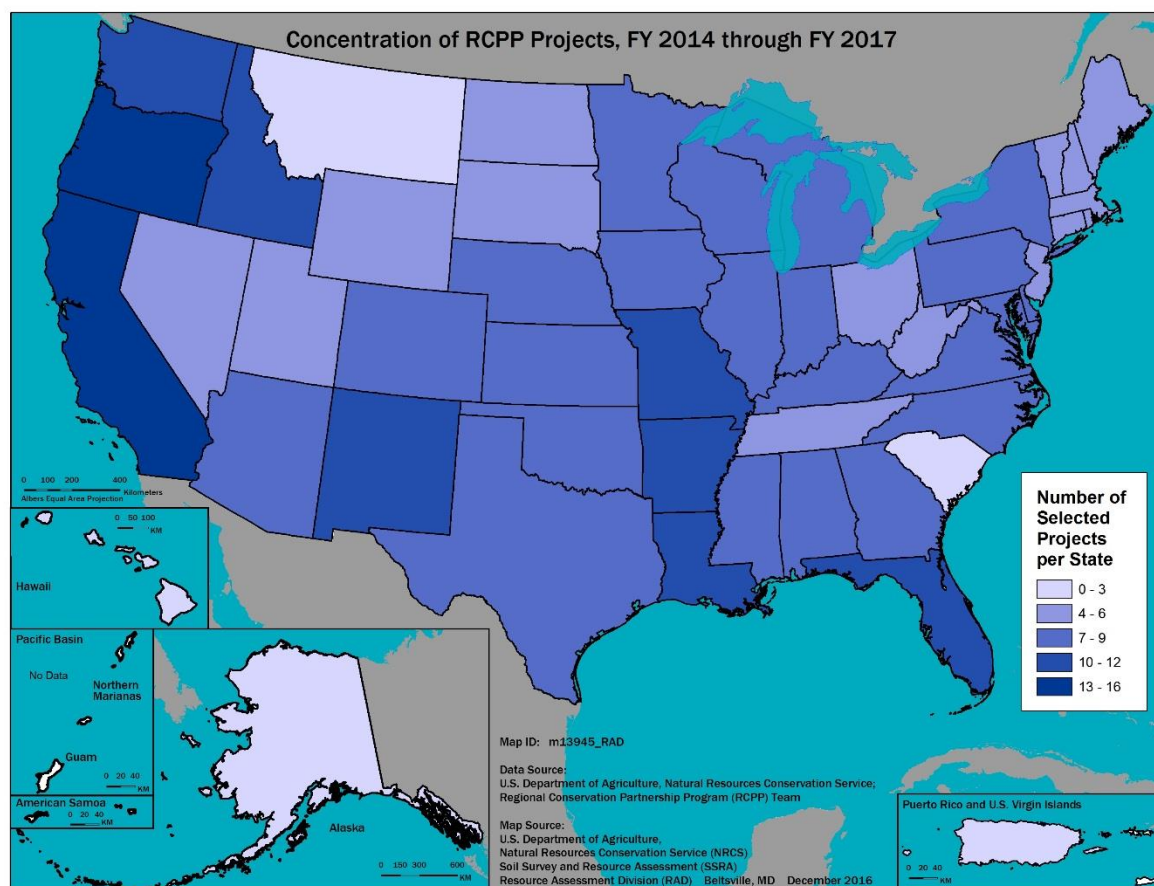
Investing in Rhode Island



Regional Conservation Partnership Program

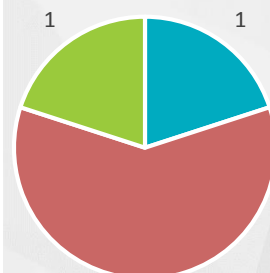
Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is a partner-driven, locally-led approach to conservation. It offers new opportunities for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to harness innovation, welcome new partners to the conservation mission, and demonstrates the value and efficacy of voluntary, private lands conservation.

In 2017, NRCS is investing up to \$225 million in 88 projects that impact every state in the nation, including one in Rhode Island. Since 2014, NRCS has invested more than \$825 million in 286 high-impact projects, bringing together more than 2,000 conservation partners who have invested an additional \$1.4 billion. By 2018, NRCS and partners will have invested at least \$2.4 billion. These projects are leading to cleaner and more abundant water, better soil and air quality, enhance wildlife habitat, more resilient and productive agricultural lands and stronger rural economies.



Rhode Island Projects to Date

Projects by Resource Concern



5

Projects

\$17 million

NRCS Investment

36

Partners

Existing RCPP Projects

Year	Title	Funding Pool	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	NRCS Investment
2016	Enhancing Soil Health in the Ocean State	State	Rhode Island State Conservation Committee	6	\$600,000
2016	The Young Forest Initiative for At-Risk Species	National	Wildlife Management Institute	12	\$5.2 million
2014/2015	Partners Protecting Source Waters of Rhode Island	State	University of Rhode Island	6	\$600,000
2014/2015	Long Island Sound Watershed RCPP	National	Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation	7	\$10 million

2017 RCPP Projects

Rhode Island Farm Conservation Plans

Proposed NRCS Investment: \$600,000 (State)
Lead Partner: RI State Conservation Committee
Number of Initial Partners: 5
Participating States: Rhode Island (Lead State)

Through the Rhode Island Farm Conservation Plans project, the Rhode Island State Conservation Committee, local conservation districts and partners will assist local farmers with farm conservation plans that address natural resource concerns. The conservation plans will entitle the landowners to qualify as a farm under the FFOS current use tax program and increase landowner participation in Natural Resources Conservation Service technical and financial assistance programs.

